

**(WASHINGTON) ---** Congresssman Allen West (FL-22) made this statement today concerning the 43rd year anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. :

“Today marks the 43rd Anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. King has been gone longer than the 39 years he had, but his impact on this country remains. As an African-American growing up in the inner city of Atlanta, just blocks away from Ebenezer Baptist Church, the same church Dr. King preached at, I am the man I am today, because of Dr. King’s influence. Dr. King had the courage to speak the truth without fear of what people might think. He had a dream of a country where black Americans would live alongside white Americans in a “promised land...over the mountain.” As a nation, we are not at that promised land just yet. But, as a nation, we need to continue to work to reach the Promised Land. We must develop policies which will provide a better education for our children, offer increased opportunity for our young people, encourage personal responsibility, lower regulations on our small businesses and provide a pathway to prosperity for all Americans. Dr. King’s life should be an inspiration to all of us to never stop working towards achieving his dream.”

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